NOTE XIII.

ON SOME NEW OR RARE BIRDS FROM SUMATRA, JAVA, CERAM AND THE POELOE TOEDJOE-GROUP, NORTH OF CERAM

BY

Dr. E. D. VAN OORT.

The new birds, of which the descriptions follow here, have been collected by Mr. F. K. Baron van Dedem, who, in company with his wife, made a trip through our East-Indian possessions. They have been collected on the Volcano Sibajak in the Batak Mountains near Lake Toba in Northern Sumatra, in East Java, in Ceram and in the Poeloe Toedjoe, a group of islands north of Ceram.

I have to tender my thanks to Dr. Hartert in Tring, for his help in comparing some of the specimens in the Tring and London Museums, as for some of the forms I had no material for comparison.

The new forms and some interesting birds from Ceram have provisionally been deposited by Baron van Dedem in the Leyden Museum.

Gecinus dedemi nov. sp.

Ad. ♂. Top of the head and hind-head crimson; narrow frontal line, lores, superciliary line, nape, hind-neck and malar stripe black; sides of face, earcoverts and chin grey; throat and upper part of the sides of the neck greenish olive; fore-neck and sides of neck, upper breast, back, wingcoverts and secondaries olive-red, brighter red on the back; rump and upper tailcoverts scarlet-red; lower breast and vent olive-green; sides of body and under tailcoverts olive-green, tinged with dull red; tailfeathers blackish; primaries blackish, the outer webs of the outer ones spotted with white, those of the inner ones with greyish olive; inner webs of the inner primaries largely spotted with white; iris dark carmine, bill black, feet lead-blue. Culmen 37, wing 135, tail 100, tarso-met. 25 mm.

Type collected on Volcano Sibajak, Batak Mountains, at an elevation of about 1450 m., 13 October 1909. (Coll. van Dedem n°. 124).

This woodpecker is one of the most important discoveries of Baron van Dedem; I have the pleasure to name the bird after him. Only a single specimen has been collected.

Myiophoneus castaneus Wardlaw Ramsay, an nov. subsp.

Ad. ♂. Nearly allied to *M. castaneus* Wardlaw Ramsay (Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1880, p. 16, pl. I) from Mount Sago, Padang Highlands, Sumatra, but the blue-black of the breast extending on the belly; under wingcoverts darker. One specimen collected on Volcano Sibajak, Batak Mountains, at about 1400 m., 12 October 1909. (Coll. van Dedem n°. 120).

This bird is either in a very adult stage of plumage or a representative of a new subspecies. Dr. Modigliani has collected a male specimen at Si Rambeh near Lake Toba, which Count Salvadori has identified with *M. castaneus* (Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova, XXXII, 1892, p. 64). For comparison I had only one adult male from the Padang Highlands.

Heteroscops luciae Sharpe, an subsp.

Ad. ♀. Comes nearest to and is probably the same as the birds from Kina Balu, North Borneo, described by Sharpe under the name of *Scops*, and lateron, *Heteroscops luciae* (Ibis, 1888, p. 478; ibid. 1889, p. 77, pl. III), and also much resembling *Heteroscops vulpes* Ogilvie-Grant (Bull. Br. O. C. XIX, 1906—'07, p. 11. — Journ. F. M. S. Mus. III, p. 51, pl. III, f. 1), which too is a very near ally to *luciae*. Unfortunately Bn. van Dedem collected only this single specimen. It appears to me, that it much resembles the second male described by Sharpe on p. 78, Ibis 1889, with the exception of the spots on the hind-neck, which are not tawny-buff, but yellowish white. I have compared our bird with two specimens of *H. luciae* from Kina Balu, a light and a dark coloured one, kindly placed at my disposal by Messrs. Rothschild and Hartert. For the present I do not find differences important enough to separate this sumatran bird. According [to the collector bill and feet were white, iris pale yellow. Length of wing 138, of tail 69 mm. The bird was shot on Volcano Sibajak at an elevation of about 1700 m., 12 October 1909. (Coll. van Dedem n°. 121).

Turnix dussumieri (Temminck).

Hemipodius dussumieri Temminck, Pl. col. 454, f. 2, 1828.
Turnix dussumieri, Olgilvie-Grant, Ibis, 1889, pp. 450, 462. — Id. Cat. B. Br. M. XXII, 1893, p. 540.

A female of this species has been collected by the same gentleman at Brebes, west of Tegal, northcoast of central Java, 27 January 1910. When comparing this bird with the material in the collection of the Leyden Museum, I found that in our collection there is also a specimen, a male, from Java, without indication of more definite locality. This species is, as far as I am aware, not only unknown from Java but also from the Malay Archipelago. The bird collected by Bn. van Dedem agrees perfectly with that in our collection. Both are somewhat darker and brighter coloured than the two type-specimens (females) of *Hemipodius dussumieri* Temminck from Bengal, preserved in our collection, the only ones I had for comparison.

Rhipidura dedemi nov. sp.

Ad. ♂. Forehead, crown, lores, earcoverts, sides of neck, hind-neck and upper back brown; superciliary stripe white, margined above and below with black; behind the eye a large white spot; lower back, rump and upper tailcoverts rusty red; chin and throat white; fore-neck black; breast-feathers black, broadly margined with white; vent white; crissum and under tailcoverts rusty red; sides of body brown; upper wingcoverts brown, the median ones with white tips; remiges brown, outer webs edged with rusty red, inner webs edged with pale rufous; inner secondaries rusty red with black shaftstripe, tailfeathers rusty red for the basal half, brown black in the distal half, tipped with rufous, the outer ones wholly rusty red, paler at the tip, with a blackish brown patch at the distal part of the inner web. Iris dark brown, bill and feet light horn-colour. Culmen 10.5, wing 76, tail 83, tarso-met. 17.5 mm.

Type collected at Kairatoe, West Ceram, 4 April 1910. (Coll. van Dedem n°. 280).

Two further specimens are collected, one (unsexed) at the same spot, the other, also an adult male, at Ahiolo at an elevation of about 700 m.; they agree with the described one. According to Bn. van Dedem the bird is common.

Rhipidura cinerea Wallace.

Three specimens, males, collected by Bn. van Dedem in West Ceram (near the coast and at about 700 m. above sea-level) agree with the description of *Rhipidura cinerea* Wallace (Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1865, p. 477. — Cat. B. Br. M. IV, 1879, p. 328), with the only exception of the tail, which is not uniform in colour, but has the outer web of the outer feather more or less white; they therefore should belong to *Rh. lenzi* Blasius (Journ. f. Orn. 1883, p. 145; cf. also Salvadori Agg. Orn. Pap. I, 1890, p. 77; Büttikofer, Notes Leyden Mus. XV, 1893, p. 92; Meyer &

Wiglesworth, Birds Celebes, I, 1898, p. 381). The amount of white on the outer web of the outer tailfeather varies much in the three specimens, and is even not the same on both feathers in the same bird. One of the specimens has on the left tailfeather the greatest amount of white, even a large white spot at the end of the inner web, whereas the white colour on the outer web of the right tailfeather is obsolete and wanting on the inner web. We have in the Leyden Museum two specimens from Ceram and one from Amboina, in which there is also a variation in the amount of white on the outer tailfeathers. The length of wing in the six specimens varies from 86 to 90 mm., that of the tail from 85 to 88 mm. The measurements given by Sharpe for the type of *cinerea* are: wing 3.3 inches (82.5 mm.) and tail 3.4 inches (85 mm.); those given by Blasius for the type of *lenzi* are: wing 93 mm., tail 90 mm. It seems to me that the birds with white on the outer tailfeathers are the same as the bird with uniform tail and are to be called *Rhipidura cinerea* Wallace; also Count Salvadori in the Aggiunte Orn. Pap. p. 78 hangs over to this opinion.

Myzomela elisabethae nov. form.

Ad. ♂. Head, back, rump, upper tailcoverts, breast and upper vent scarlet; lores, wings, tail, sides of body, lower vent and under tailcoverts black; outer webs of remiges margined with olive; under wingcoverts and margins of the inner webs of the remiges white. Iris dark brown, bill and feet black. Culmen 13, wing 53, tail 32, tarsomet. 13.5 mm.

Differs from *Myzomela wakoloensis* Forbes (Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1883, p. 116) of Boeroe in having the smaller upper wingcoverts entirely black.

Type collected at Wailakoné, West Ceram (± 700 m.), 27 May 1910. (Coll. van Dedem n°. 401).

I have the honour to name this bird after Mrs. Elisabeth Baroness van Dedem.

Stoparola harterti nov. form.

Ad. ♂. Dull bluish above, with only a very slight greenish tinge; lores black; under surface like the upper surface but paler; abdomen and under tailcoverts white, the latter with a very faint tinge of blue, quills blackish, externally margined with blue; tailfeathers blackish, margined with blue, the middle pair blue with black shafts; under wingcoverts bluish white. Iris dark umberbrown, bill black; feet greyish black. Culmen 10, wing 76, tail 59, tarso-met. 17 mm.

Ad. ♀. Like the male, but somewhat duller in colour, and smaller. Culmen 9, wing 73, tail 56, tarso-met. 16.5 mm.

Types collected in West Ceram; ♂ at Ahiolo about 700 m. above sea-level, 10 May 1910, ♀ at Wailakoné about 800 m. above sea-level, 27 May 1910. (Coll. van Dedem n°s 355 and 398).

These birds are nearly allied to *St. panayensis* Sharpe from the island of Panay, Philippines. I had no material of this species at hand for comparison, but Dr. Hartert, to whom I sent the birds, very kindly compared them with his material of *panayensis* and informed me, that the birds from Ceram differ from *panayensis* by the smaller bill, lighter bluish upper surface and breast, more whitish under tailcoverts and much shorter wings. I have the honour to name this form after my esteemed colleague for his kind assistance.

Collocalia ceramensis nov. sp.

Ad. ♂. Upper parts sooty black with greenish gloss; rumpfeathers greenish white with dark shaftlines; under parts and sides of the head dark ash-coloured, fore-neck and upper breast whitish; obsolete dark shaftlines on the breast, vent and under tailcoverts; under wingcoverts greenish sooty black; scanty feathers of the tarso-metatarsus blackish brown. Iris blackish brown, bill blackish, feet greyish black. Wing 109, tail 48 mm.

Type collected at Kwalara (± 60 m.), West Ceram, 26 April 1910. (Coll. van Dedem n°. 330).

Zosterops tudjuensis nov. form.

Ad. ♂ ♀. Nearly allied to *Zosterops chloris* Bonaparte (Consp. Av. I, 1850, p. 398) of the Banda Islands, from which it differs by the more yellowish, less olive-yellow, upper parts and earcoverts, and the pure yellow of the under parts, extending on the vent and the under tailcoverts, which are in *Z. chloris* olive-yellow. Only the sides of the body are olive-yellow. Iris cinnamon, bill black, feet greenish lead-blue. Culmen 11, wing ♂ 60, ♀ 58, tail ♂ 43, ♀ 42, tarso-met. 18 mm.

Types collected on Noesa Touloen (also called Poeloe Ajer), an uninhabited islet of the Poeloe Toedjoe-group in the Ceram Sea, north of Ceram, 9 June 1910. (Coll. van Dedem n°s 429 and 430).

I compared these birds with a series of ten specimens of *Zosterops chloris*, among which the types, in the collection of the Leyden Museum.

Leyden Museum, November 1911.